Contact: Leslie Webb (619) 236-7754

Cell: (619) 889-8866

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Councilmember Jim Madaffer Lobbies for Funding to Relieve Traffic Congestion

In his role as chair of SANDAG's Transportation Committee, Councilmember Jim Madaffer testified before the California Transportation Commission (CTC) today on behalf of the San Diego regions' \$1.5 billion in project submissions. Councilmember Madaffer stressed that the CTC recommendation of only \$2.8 billion in projects when \$4.5 billion is available fell short of what the voters of California expected when they passed Prop1B.

Councilmember Madaffer was heartened to see the very high scores given by the CTC staff for San Diego projects but at the same time, while grateful for the \$300 million in recommendations, said the fact that we would need to find \$261 million more is very troubling.

He said the expectation of the people of California was for the CTC to award traffic congestion relief now and not tomorrow. The longer we wait, the more projects will cost. We should take advantage of low interest rates now and build at today's cost of materials and not what they may cost a year from now.

Councilmember Madaffer was joined by a contingent that included Mayor Jerry Sanders, State Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny, representatives of the Economic Development Corporation, and representatives of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce.